

Same old OWS: Marches and arrests

BY ANNA SANDERS
Special to amNewYork

After months of dormancy, Occupy Wall Street and its related groups rallied in the city yesterday, including a march from Union Square to Foley Square.

Hundreds gathered for the afternoon May Day rally in Union Square, but the event's message of equality for workers was garbled in the mix of traditional occupiers and local labor unions.

Most of the protesters in Union Square called for amnesty for undocumented immigrants, but the multiple chants from the stage became inaudible.

Some groups waved flags, others held up banners decrying "capitalism's evils" and a few did a Mexican dance in colorful garb. Some protesters still donned the Guy Fawkes mask that has come to represent Occupy Wall Street.



ANTHONY LANZILOTE

A May Day protester in Union Square

Victor Castellano, a trustee with the Teamsters Local 553, said the traditional May Day message was "heavily diluted" at the rally.

"You have a whole bunch of people now with different agendas," said the 58-year-old Whitestone resident. "We're not looking for

an end to Wall Street or beginning of socialism, we just want fair labor laws."

After Union Square, the demonstrators marched to Foley Square in a mostly calm procession.

Some of the day's protests, however, weren't as pretty.

More than a hundred protesters gathered in the East Village earlier in the afternoon and butted heads with officers who were at the scene.

A small scuffle ensued and at least six people were arrested, a witness said.

At press time, the NYPD couldn't give a number of how many protesters were taken in to custody.

Other events were scheduled for last night, including a memorial at Zuccotti Park for Kimani Gray, a 16-year-old boy who was killed by officers in Flatbush in March after cops say he threatened them with a weapon. (WITH IVAN PEREIRA)



CHARLES ECKERT

Police arrest a protester during an anti-capitalist march in the East Village yesterday.



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A foodie's dream at GCT

Sandra Lee, Rosanna Scotto, Mario Batali and Ty Pennington, among others, at the Ribbon Cutting for the World's Largest Bake Sale at Grand Central Terminal.

Buried ex-postal worker was strangled to death, cops say

Frank Soucie, 60, the popular retired postal worker who was the subject of an intensive search until his body was found buried in the back yard of his Ridgewood, Queens home Tuesday night, was a

victim of "homicidal asphyxia," the medical examiner ruled yesterday.

Cops yesterday had detained his stepson, Derek Tudor, 27, who had reportedly confessed, but had not yet

charged him in the crime.

NYPD spokesman Paul Browne was quoted in the Daily News as saying Tudor admitted suffocating Soucie but then "began to cry again and asked for a lawyer." (AMNY)



MAYOR'S OFFICE

A downtown bike rack is being swapped for a share station.

More outcry over bike share

The city's latest planned outpost for its new bike share program is pushing a group of active Battery Park City cyclists to cause a racket.

Residents found out last week that a popular bike rack on South End Avenue, at Liberty Street, is being torn down to make way for a set of Citi Bike stations, leaving local bikers perplexed — and angry.

"This makes absolutely no sense," said Shelly Mossey, 58,

an avid cyclist who runs a bike-messenger company. "The program is supposed to promote biking, so they're taking away a place to put bikes? It's crazy."

The rack, which sits outside a large housing complex called Gateway Plaza, is used by tenants and is also open for public use.

"It's the only bike rack in the area," said Karen Sideman, who lives nearby.

The DOT is installing 6,000 bikes at 330 stations in Manhattan and Brooklyn for the initial phase of the program, which is slated to begin this month.

Jacko doc had legal woes: Cop

Michael Jackson's personal doctor was in financial and legal troubles at the time of the singer's death, a Los Angeles detective testified yesterday in the wrongful death lawsuit brought by Jackson's family against concert promoters AEG Live.

Dr. Conrad Murray was "in desperate financial straits," and under legal pressure with liens against his property in Nevada, Los Angeles police detective Orlando Martinez told a jury in the civil trial.

Martinez, who investigated Jackson's 2009 death, said Murray had unpaid

student loans, was behind on credit card bills and owed rent for his business.

Murray, who had asked for \$5 million to care for the singer, was convicted in 2011 for involuntary manslaughter of Jackson through an overdose weeks before a planned series of 50 concerts. (REUTERS)



Murray

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